

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2023
REGULAR MINUTES/JOURNAL

PLEDGE

There was a moment of silence observed for the victims of 911.

ROLL CALL

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL	MR. REYNALD J. PAOLONE	ABSENT
FIRST WARD COUNCILMAN	MR. KEITH SCHUBERT	PRESENT
SECOND WARD COUNCILMAN	MR. MARK STANDOHAR	ABSENT
THIRD WARD COUNCILMAN	MR. JEFF KAY	PRESENT
FOURTH WARD COUNCILMAN	MR. THOMAS GRUMLEY	PRESENT
COUNCILMAN-AT-LARGE	MS. LILY MARTUCCIO	PRESENT
COUNCILMAN-AT-LARGE	MR. JOHN MOLITERNO	PRESENT
COUNCILMAN-AT-LARGE	MR. SAM ZIRAFI	PRESENT

MOTION GRUMLEY SECOND SCHUBERT TO EXCUSE COUNCILMAN STANDOHAR AND PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL PAOLONE FROM THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2023.

SCHUBERT 2
STANDOHAR Abs.
KAY
GRUMLEY 1
MARTUCCIO
MOLITERNO
ZIRAFI
MOTION PASSES 6-0

COMMUNICATIONS

President Pro Temp Moliterno said they will file the letter received from Attorney Kren with council records.

President Pro Temp Moliterno said they received a letter from Attorney Kren and will file the information with all of council.

ADDITIONS & DELETIONS

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

MOTION KAY SECOND SCHUBERT TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2023.

SCHUBERT 2
STANDOHAR Abs.
KAY 1
GRUMLEY
MARTUCCIO
MOLITERNO
ZIRAFI
MOTION PASSES 6-0

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

MOTION GRUMLEY SECOND KAY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JULY 24, 2023 AS WRITTEN.

SCHUBERT
STANDOHAR Abs.
KAY 2
GRUMLEY 1
MARTUCCIO
MOLITERNO

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Mayor Melfi said this evening we are going to honor a person who has meant so much to the entire City of Girard and its children and young adults and we'll stop there. This evening we have a proclamation honoring Maria Selak on her retirement. The mayor read the proclamation aloud and congratulated Mrs. Selak. Council and administration congratulated Mrs. Selak.

President Pro Temp Moliterno stated that he and Maria were classmates and Ursuline and it pains him to see anyone retire at such a young age.

Anka Krakora, Girard, Ohio. Ms. Krakora said that she remembers as a child her younger sister, Marta and older sister, Maria, and she spent lots of time in the library which was right next door. Do you realize that the library was all on the second floor. Just like the Avon Oaks Ballroom it was two floors and they had the dance... she doesn't remember that. She said she knows that on behalf of the family they really appreciate taking the time to honor her in such a way. The first children's librarian. She said when she looks around and told Mayor Melfi his daughter is her principal. She said to Mr. Lambert she taught two of his older daughters. She told Mrs. Coggins she didn't have her but she knew her grandparents and her uncle is here and she had her daughter in school. She said she's not sure if she had her in school. Ms. Coggins said she believes she did. Mr. Zuppo is going to be their next mayor and she teaches with his daughter. She taught with John's wife, Polly. She told Mr. Grumley she believes she had some of his children as well. Mrs. Krakora said there is something special about each of them. She said Mr. Kay does very well for Robotics night at the races. She said she had Mr. Schubert in third grade when Summit school was still over there on West Liberty Street Extension. She said Mrs. Martuccio, first ward, she was first ward councilman for Civic's Day back in 1972 but it wasn't here. Lana Dawson if you remember him he was the mayor that year. She addressed Mr. Zirafi and said she wondered if his wife didn't come to her mother to be her seamstress. Ms. Krakora said there is something special about everyone. This is so nice being in a small city, 9000 some people and you sort of know everybody. She speaks from the heart. Thanks to the library ladies. Thanks each and every one of them.

Maria Selak. She said she lives across the street from her sister. Mrs. Selak said she wanted to remind everyone that the library there are at now, they moved there 50 years ago. 1973. It took them one month to the day, June through July, to move the books from the library here to the new library in 1973. They had kids from the high school come to help move. They had a truck from Valley Ford. They loaned them a truck. They just added gas and it was wonderful. They were so excited. She had everything down on paper. She measured all of the shelves and everything to make sure that everything taken was put in boxes correctly and then put on shelves in the new library. It was great. They are very fortunate to have such a wonderful library in Girard. She hopes they use it. The staff is wonderful and she enjoyed working with them. She thanked everyone again.

President Pro Temp Moliterno said he is sure they all know that the library is one of the gems of our community and they are all proud to have it here and proud to have a children's librarian for as many years as she put in. He thanked her.

Ed Dzeta, 102 North Avenue. Mr. Dzeta said that he hasn't heard anything lately about what is happening with the theater. Is there anything going on with it? He hasn't heard.

Mayor Melfi responded that in his report tonight he has a note of that. It will be coming up in just a minute.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS OF THE CITY

MAYOR

JAMES MELFI

PRESENT

Mayor Melfi said he had just one item this evening because the safety service director has quite a bit to say. Planning for the Wellman is progressing. The architect for CT Consultants was here last week and giving it a going over once again. They are accumulating the numbers, what the approximate total cost will be for project. Also, what percentage. We do qualify, as he said prior to the break, they do qualify for Appalachian funding. Theaters and bike trails play a big role in the funding in downtowns. The mayor said they are looking forward to seeing what numbers are for the cost of the renovation. Obviously, they are more excited to see what they are going to get to renovate it. The mayor said he will keep council informed along the way.

COMMENTS:

Mr. Lambert said he mostly has information tonight. The lights on 711 are still out. The street lights. They are working in conjunction with ODOT but there are still a lot of parts that are on backorder so it will still be a while before they get to those lights. Lambert said the second thing, they do have license plate readers now and there are six cameras installed right now in the City of Girard. One on North State, one on South State, two at Liberty and State and two on East Liberty. These things are called automatic license plate readers. They locate stolen vehicles, wanted persons or vehicles involved in crimes. They have roughly about \$2,500 in them and they are working in conjunction with the other communities that have these as well. They are going to start on Keefer Rd on the 18th. The approximate start date for paving, it's pretty good now, they are going to start Wednesday and will be done Friday. It will only take two days to do all of the streets. Lambert said they also put on the website where the signs are going to be located. The street department is going to put up no parking signs ahead of time so they don't have to worry about trying to track down people to move their cars or having cars towed. The signs will be up. All of the information is on the Girard City website. Just look under projects and it will lead you right to this part. The salt barn. They are waiting for the stamped engineering drawings of the building before they can actually put the whole thing out for bid so they are hoping to put the whole project out to bid by the end of September. Sealing. Sealing right now Trumbull Hill is done, Churchill is being done this week as long as the weather agrees with us. They started on those streets but they are also going off on tangents to try to do little bits going north or south east or west of those main streets. The new trucks for the street department. One has actually been delivered and is ready to go. The other one is still at Freightliner getting some pre-delivery inspections done. The leaf bag program is going to start on October 2nd and run through November 22nd. That will also be put on the website as well. Shannon and Churchill traffic light. Mr. Lambert said he knows it is a pain. The biggest thing is, they have done as much as they can, Ohio Edison has gotten them all of the service they need so the service is there. It is just again, waiting for these parts. They just can't get these parts for this particular thing. Hopefully in the next couple weeks with a lot of luck they can get the intersection back up and running. Mr. Lambert said the next thing, if they notice in their water bills there was an orange piece of paper that told people in the City of Girard what is going to be happening as far as bulk pickup trash items. Basically, the most problems they have had in the past has been with mattresses. It is going to be explained in detail from them as well as us, if anyone does call with regard to a mattress they must be wrapped in plastic before they will pick it up. You just make the phone call. So far, they have been working on it in bits and pieces for the past 3 weeks calling them to do the work and it seems to be working pretty well. Hopefully, we'll see after those things have gone out, this thing should take off even better. Lambert said on the agenda tonight they have three pieces of legislation. One piece is just for advertisement for bids for health insurance. The other two are the projects that they would like to submit to Eastgate. One is the Mosier Road bridge and the other one is the Tibbetts Wick bridge. They can just see if it is going to work. They put them in so that Mosier Road bridge, if they get the funding for it, the entire project is going to cost about \$527,000. The city's share will be \$242,000 and OPWC will pick up \$284,000. That is what they are shooting for. This is putting the line on Mosier Road under Interstate 80. The other one they want to send in for the other piece of legislation is for the Tibbetts Wick upgrade to the pump station. The estimated value on that one is \$701,000. The city's share will be \$322,000. OPWC will pick up \$378,000. Mr. Lambert said to him these two are critical in one aspect, especially because they haven't really settled the contract with Niles and these two things going forward could help us with negotiations with Niles. If these things do pass tonight and they get the go ahead on that then the law director and he will make contact with Niles to see if they can set up the next meeting.

COMMENTS:

Councilman Grumley asked if the actual assembly for the salt barn has been ordered?

Mr. Lambert responded that as soon as get drawings they can put the thing out for bid. The engineers have been contacting them and they are going to put a tentative bid date in hopefully by the end of September and it will be based on the drawings once they get the drawings. Lambert said he doesn't know why they are dragging their feet on the drawings. It's been approved and everything, but they are shitting to be advertising in September.

Grumley asked it's thirty days on the bids. Lambert said at least two weeks. Grumley said then that puts us into October. Lambert said yes.

Grumley said how about demo? Lambert responded that he thinks what they have done is they have moved a lot of the salt. They kept some of it down there. Liberty is working in conjunction with them so they have moved some of it to Liberty. They will make it work one way or another.

Councilwoman Martuccio said she had a question in regard to the health insurance plan. Going forward is there any way that they can see how many outstanding current bills there are with their employees and

if they are going to change the first of the year a lot of people will probably go to their providers in the next couple of months because they met their deductible and get their work done, so how do, she kinda wants to ask if there are outstanding bills will they be paid and when? Can they put their payments to third party insurance payer in escrow until all of these bills are paid for their employees. Martuccio said she is just questioning.

Mr. Lambert said they have been dealing with a broker for years and he has saved the city a lot of money through the years and he and the mayor are meeting with him tomorrow and they will make sure that is part of the thing. He is pretty sure that almost all of the bids are not just for a year he thinks they are 15 12 and they go back three months for the charges that are there and for the last ever since the last council meeting he thinks he has had maybe 2 or 3 calls and that's it. They have been handled, called him back and thanked him for getting involved. Lately it has been halfway decent.

Councilman Kay asked if the paving is starting this Wednesday?

Jerry responded on 13th and done on the 15th. He said they will have two crews working. One will be milling and the other will be paving right behind them.

Councilman Moliterno said if he understands correctly almost immediately he will put it on the website so people know which streets will be done.

Jerry said it is on there now.

LAW DIRECTOR

BRIAN KREN

PRESENT

Attorney Kren said two pieces of legislation he would like council to request. One, if council wants to renew the fire levy next year request that to get the numbers from the county auditor to get the milage. Secondly, it has been nine years since they have looked at the prosecutor's salary. He would like that to be brought up for amendment. He presumes there will be a finance meeting at the next meeting if he could have five minutes to present his numbers. President Pro Temp Moliterno asked if he would like legislation prepared or just wants to discuss at the finance meeting? Attorney Kren said he would love legislation prepared if that's fine. Kren said he was finally successful in having the court grant the city the right to acquire the TK Charles property, which was the property that they tore down. However, there is a tax foreclosure. Although they have their abatement lien property taxes always come first so there is \$17-18,000 in taxes owed that they would have to address in order to acquire the property. The county auditor has the land valued at \$19,900. Arguably, what is owed plus the court costs may be around that. He doesn't know if council... the finance committee will want to discuss and authorize them to acquire it or if someone has more pull than he does they can negotiate that down with the county. Good luck. Moliterno said he didn't know if that was a negotiable item between municipalities and the county. Kren said not according to the prosecutor's office.

COMMENTS:

AUDITOR

JULIE COGGINS

PRESENT

No report.

COMMENTS:

TREASURER

MARK ZUPPO

PRESENT

Mr. Zuppo said they all got the report for August that he emailed the other day so they will go over that at the finance meeting next month at the next meeting. It looks like pretty good news as far as where they are at, \$500,000 up from prior year.

COMMENTS:

FIRE CHIEF

JAMES PETRUZZI

ABSENT

COMMENTS:

POLICE CHIEF

JOHN NORMAN

ABSENT

COMMENTS:

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCES-MOLITERNO-GRUMLEY-ZIRAFI

Councilman Moliterno made a formal request for caucus time at 6:30 for their meeting on the 25th for the finance committee.

COMMENTS:

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT-KAY-MARTUCCIO-MOLITERNO

No report.

COMMENTS:

BUILDING & GROUNDS-SCHUBERT-STANDOHAR-KAY

No report.

COMMENTS:

Councilman Grumley said that he spoke to Mr. Schubert on the phone last week. He would like to work with his committee on establishing an advisory committee for the Wellman Theater comprised of a member council, a member of administration, a couple of members of the community maybe chosen by council and administration and have the law director as the seventh member. Grumley said his thoughts are to have the chair of building and grounds committee represent council if he is willing to take on that task. Mr. Schubert said absolutely. Grumley said they have had some previous ordinances in the past where they have had committees. They had a tree committee in the past. They had a recreation committee back in the day. He thinks this would be a great opportunity to bring members of the community in and get on board. Six out of the seven of them have stated that they wanted to get this moving on the theater so he thinks this would be a great start. Grumley said he would like to work with Schubert's committee on establishing this. Maybe they could set a goal for the end of November to have the ordinance ready to bring to the table so they could have it by the end of the year.

President Pro Temp asked the law director if they need to an ordinance for it to be an ad hoc committee? The law director said he believes Councilman Grumley was talking about an advisory committee. Moliterno said not an ad hoc that would simply be in place until something ends up happening. That committee stays in effect to see through the project itself. Councilman Grumley said the advisory committee working and they would have a member of council, a member of administration, law director all on board with the committee. Councilman Moliterno said he knows they had like he said, they both sat on that recreational advisory committee in past years. Moliterno asked the law director, there is a little difference in it too correct? Attorney Kren said correct. Councilman Grumley said he has spoken to the law director a few times on this and he would like to get it established whether it is brought to council for a vote. They will all be ready to go hopefully by the end of November. Moliterno said great. They need to move forward with that. He thinks everybody is excited about what can happen with that theater downtown.

HEALTH & SAFETY-GRUMLEY-MOLITERNO-MARTUCCIO

No report. Councilman Grumley said the tragedy that happened 22 years ago today, he thinks that they need to reflect on the men and women that are representing us every day in this town and everything they put on the line to keep us all safe every night.

COMMENTS:

STREETS SIDEWALKS & EMPLOYEE WELFARE-STANDOHAR-KAY-GRUMLEY

No report. Councilman Kay said he is excited to see the paving started. Personally, they were making signs for the no parking that Tommy asked them to make on Friday. He doesn't know if they'll be done by Wednesday, but they will do their best. They will try tomorrow to get them done. Kay said he didn't realize that it was going to be this quick but he is happy about it though.

COMMENTS:

UTILITIES-ZIRAFI-SCHUBERT-STANDOHAR

No report.

COMMENTS:

ZONING-MARTUCCIO-ZIRAFI-SCHUBERT

Councilwoman Martuccio said there will be a block watch meeting Thursday, September 21st at 6 pm at the Girard Library. Martuccio said she will also be asking for legislation to have locked doors in apartment buildings with 4 or more dwellings. They will see it next time.

COMMENTS:

ORDINANCES

51-76

FIRST READING

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE CITY'S HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2024.

MOTION GRUMLEY SECOND KAY TO SUSPEND THE SECOND AND THIRD READINGS OF ORDINANCE 51-76.

SCHUBERT
STANDOHAR Absent
KAY 2
GRUMLEY 1
MARTUCCIO
MOLITERNO
ZIRAFI
MOTION PASSES 6-0

MOTION GRUMLEY SECOND KAY FOR PASSAGE OF ORDINANCE 51-76.

SCHUBERT
STANDOHAR Absent
KAY 2
GRUMLEY 1
MARTUCCIO
MOLITERNO
ZIRAFI
MOTION PASSES 6-0

51-77

FIRST READING

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OPWC STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AND/OR LOCAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS AND EXECUTE CONTRACTS AS REQUIRED FOR THE MOSIER ROAD WATERLINE PROJECT.

MOTION GRUMLEY SECOND ZIRAFI TO SUSPEND THE SECOND AND THIRD READINGS OF ORDINANCE 51-77.

SCHUBERT
STANDOHAR Absent
KAY
GRUMLEY 1
MARTUCCIO
MOLITERNO
ZIRAFI 2
MOTION PASSES 6-0

MOTION GRUMLEY SECOND ZIRAFI FOR PASSAGE OF ORDINANCE 51-77

SCHUBERT
STANDOHAR Absent
KAY
GRUMLEY 1
MARTUCCIO
MOLITERNO
ZIRAFI 2
MOTION PASSES 6-0

51-78

FIRST READING

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OPWC STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AND/OR LOCAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS AND EXECUTE CONTRACTS REQUIRED FOR THE TIBBETTS WICK PUMPSTATION UPGRADE PROJECT.

MOTION GRUMLEY SECOND ZIRAFI TO SUSPEND THE SECOND AND THIRD READINGS OF ORDINANCE 51-78.

SCHUBERT
STANDOHAR Absent

KAY
GRUMLEY 1
MARTUCCIO
MOLITERNO
ZIRAFI 2
MOTION PASSES 6-0

MOTION GRUMLEY SECOND ZIRAFI FOR PASSAGE OF ORDINANCE 51-78.

SCHUBERT
STANDOHAR Absent
KAY
GRUMLEY 1
MARTUCCIO
MOLITERNO
ZIRAFI 2
MOTION PASSES 6-0

51-79

FIRST READING

ORDINANCE DECLARING THE ADOPTION OF THE GIRARD CITY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN INCLUDING RELATED UPDATES BENEFITING THE YOUNGSTOWN AIR RESERVE STATION AND ZONING RECOMMENDATIONS IDENTIFIED DURING THE PLANNING PROCESS; AUTHORIZING ADMINISTRATION AND DEPARTMENT HEADS TO WORK TOWARD IMPLEMENTATION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

President Pro Temp Moliterno said having sat on the committee that put that plan together it deserves three readings because it is extensive. They may want to have a conversation about it.

NEW LEGISLATION

MOTION ZIRAFI SECOND SCHUBERT TO PREPARE LEGISLATION FOR A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR.

SCHUBERT 2
STANDOHAR Absent
KAY
GRUMLEY
MARTUCCIO
MOLITERNO
ZIRAFI 1
MOTION PASSES 6-0

MOTION MARTUCCIO SECOND GRUMLEY TO PREPARE LEGISLATION FOR A ZONING ORDINANCE REQUIRING LOCKED DOORS ON APARTMENT BUILDINGS WITH FOUR OR MORE DWELLINGS.

SCHUBERT
STANDOHAR Absent
KAY
GRUMLEY 2
MARTUCCIO 1
MOLITERNO
ZIRAFI
MOTION PASSES 6-0

MOTION GRUMLEY SECOND KAY TO PREPARE LEGISLATION FOR THE FIRE RENEWAL LEVY.

SCHUBERT
STANDOHAR Absent
KAY 2
GRUMLEY 1
MARTUCCIO
MOLITERNO
ZIRAFI
MOTION PASSES 6-0

MOTION GRUMLEY SECOND ZIRAFI TO PREPARE LEGISLATION TO ADJUST THE SALARY OF THE PROSECUTOR FOR THE CITY OF GIRARD.

SCHUBERT
STANDOHAR Absent
KAY
GRUMLEY 1
MARTUCCIO
MOLITERNO
ZIRAFI 2
MOTION PASSES 6-0

MOTION GRUMLEY SECOND SCHUBERT TO PREPARE LEGISLATION TO MOVE \$150,000 OUT OF THE ARP MONEY INTO A WELLMAN THEATER FUND.

SCHUBERT 2
STANDOHAR Absent
KAY
GRUMLEY 1
MARTUCCIO
MOLITERNO
ZIRAFI
MOTION PASSES 6-0

ADJOURNMENT

President Pro Temp Moliterno thanked everyone for coming and congratulated Maria Selak again and said having her family there makes it even better.

MONICA URBANIC, CLERK OF COUNCIL

REYNALD PAOLONE, PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL